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January 15, 2003

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**Ser. No. 09/851,745 DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY****Question for discussion:**

Whether the statement in U.S. Patent 5,899,998 that "[t]he presently preferred embodiment uses asynchronous modems to connect each POS station to a switching station. Communications over these modems are encrypted to help protect the security of the system and to preserve the confidentiality of individual patient's medical information," anticipates "encapsulation" as claimed in the pending application, such as in pending claim 29 that separately mentions encryption and encapsulation as being independent method steps:

29. A method for transferring electronic medical record data comprising:  
encapsulating an electronic medical record file so as to allow it to be viewed and to prevent it from being modified;  
encrypting the encapsulated electronic medical record file;  
transmitting the encrypted encapsulated electronic medical record file to a remote location;  
decrypting the encrypted encapsulated electronic medical record file at the remote location; and  
generating a user-readable display using the encapsulated electronic medical record file.

*difference between*

*encapsulation vs encryption*

*24*

*encryption - encoding data to prevent unauthorized access during transmission of data.*

*encapsulation - prevent data from being manipulated but accessed by authorized users.*